



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
10/027,915	12/21/2001	William J. Boyle	ACS-57406	9956	
24201	7590	01/19/2006	EXAMINER		
FULWIDER PATTON				NGUYEN, VI X	
6060 CENTER DRIVE				ART UNIT	
10TH FLOOR				3731	
LOS ANGELES, CA 90045				PAPER NUMBER	

DATE MAILED: 01/19/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

S7

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/027,915	BOYLE ET AL	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Victor X. Nguyen	3731	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 November 2005.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-70 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-40, 51, 54, 55 and 58 is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 41-50, 52, 53, 56, 57 and 59-70 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>02/2004</u> .	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 41-50,52-53,56-57 and 59-70 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Fearnout (5,100,423).

Fearnout discloses in figures 1-2, an embolic filter device to capture embolic debris in a vessel having the limitations as recited in the above listed claims, including: a guide wire (102), an expandable filter assembly (150) mounted near the distal end of the guide wire, the filter assembly includes a self-expanding cage having a circumferential member (105) which forming an opening (fig. 1) which is substantially transverse to a longitudinal axis of the cage , and the circumferential member includes a plurality of bending regions (121,125), where a proximal strut (104) attaches to the circumferential member, and where a distal strut (120) is coupled to the circumferential member, and a filter element (see col. 3, lines 40-47) attached to the expandable cage, and where each connecting member is attached at a bending region on the circumferential member.

Regarding claims 42-43 and 57, Fearnout discloses the proximal strut has one end rotatably mounted to the guide wire (102); and where the struts (104) are attached to the circumferential member at bending regions.

Art Unit: 3731

Regarding claims 44, 46, 48-49 and 59, Fearnout discloses the filter device further includes a plurality of struts (104) attached to bending regions located on the circumferential member.

Regarding claims 45,50,52-53 and 60-61, Fearnout discloses the filter device further includes a plurality of distal struts (120) attached to bending regions located on the circumferential member.

Regarding claims 62-65 and 67-69, Fearnout discloses each bending region has a preformed shape which substantially the same in both the expanded and collapsed positions. Note that the procedure in figure 2 discloses where each bending region can be resembled in u-shape and can be located about 180 degrees apart from the other on the circumferential member.

Response to Amendment

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 41,47 and 56 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. Applicant is asked to please refer to the modified prior art rejection above wherein examiner addresses applicant's concerns regarding prior art rejections.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

Art Unit: 3731

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Victor X. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-4699. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8-4.30 P.M.).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anh Tuan Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-4963. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Victor X Nguyen
Examiner
Art Unit 3731

Vn VN
1/12/2006

Julian W. Woo

JULIAN W. WOO
PRIMARY EXAMINER